

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of multicasting information to a set of clients comprising:

constructing a data topology associated with the set of clients based on performance information associated with the set of clients;

determining a primary client using performance information and a network location of the client, the network location relating to [[a]] the data topology;

transmitting the information to the primary client from a server; and

instructing the primary client to forward the information to a secondary client.

2. (Original) A method of multicasting information to a set of clients as recited in claim 1 further including receiving performance information from the set of clients.

3. (Original) A method of transmitting a customized offer to an applicant as recited in claim 1 further including pinging clients to determine the network location of the clients.

4. (Original) A method of transmitting a customized offer to an applicant as recited in claim 1 wherein the information is streaming video.

5. (Currently Amended) A method of multicasting information to a set of clients comprising:

determining a performance parameter for each of the clients;

constructing a data topology associated with the set of clients based on the performance parameter associated with each of the clients

selecting a subset of the clients to be primary clients based on the performance parameter and a network location relating to [[a]] the data topology;

transmitting the information to the primary clients for retransmission to other clients in the set of clients.

6. (Currently amended) A method of multicasting information to a set of clients comprising:

constructing a data topology associated with the set of clients based on performance information associated with the set of clients;

determining a network location for each of the clients;

determining a primary client using performance information and the network location of each of the clients, the network location relating to [[a]] the data topology;

selecting a subset of the clients to be primary clients based on the network location and the performance information;

transmitting the information to the primary clients for retransmission to other clients in the set of clients.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of multicasting information to a set of clients comprising:

determining a network location for each of the clients;

determining a performance parameter for each of the clients;

constructing a data topology associated with the set of clients based on the performance parameter associated with each of the clients;

selecting a subset of the clients to be primary clients based on the performance parameter and the determined network location, the network location relating to [[a]] the data topology;

transmitting the information to the primary clients for retransmission to other clients in the set of clients.

8 – 9 (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A method of forwarding information from a transmitting client to a receiving client in a multicast group comprising:

receiving an instruction from a multicast server to forward information to the receiving client including a performance report for determining a performance parameter and a network location for the transmitting client and the receiving client, the network location relating to a data topology constructed by the server based on the performance parameter associated with each client in the multicast group;

receiving the information; and

forwarding the information to the receiving client.

11. (Original) A method of multicasting information to a set of clients as recited in claim 10 further including displaying the information to a user.

12. (Original) A method of multicasting information to a set of clients as recited in claim 10 further including displaying the information to a user without positively indicating to the user that the information is being forwarded.

13 – 17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) A server configured to multicast information to a set of clients comprising:

a client interface configured to transmit the information to a primary client from the server and to instruct the primary client to forward the information to a secondary client; and

~~logic for~~ configured to construct a data topology associated with the set of clients based on performance information associated with the set of clients and to determine
~~determining~~ a primary client using performance information and a network location of the client, the network location relating to ~~[[a]]~~ the data topology.

19. (Currently Amended) A client configured to forward multicast information to another client comprising:

a server interface configured to receive the information from the server and to exchange with the server, performance, control, and network location data relating to a data topology constructed based on performance information; and

a client interface configured to forward the information to the another client.

20. (Currently Amended) A system for multicasting information to a set of clients comprising:

a server configured to transmit the information, to construct a data topology associated with the set of clients based on performance information associated with the set of

clients and to determine a primary client using performance information and a network location of the set of clients, the network location relating to [[a]] the data topology; and

a primary client configured to receive the transmitted information and to forward the information to a secondary client.

21. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for multicasting information, the computer program product being embodied in a computer readable medium and comprising computer instructions for:

constructing a data topology associated with the set of clients based on performance information associated with the set of clients;

determining a primary client using performance information and a network location of the client, the network location relating to [[a]] the data topology;

transmitting the information to a primary client from a server; and

instructing the primary client to forward the information to a secondary client.